

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011**

ATTENDANCE: 1st Selectman Stevenson; Gerald Nielsen; David Bayne;
Dave Campbell; John Lundeen

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer

OTHER: Rep. Terrie Wood; Jeremy Ginsburg, Director Planning & Zoning;
Bob Steeger, Director of Public Works;
Holly Schultz; David Kahn

CALL TO ORDER

1st Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

REPORT FROM REP. TERRIE WOOD ON RE-DISTRICTING

Rep. Terrie Wood presented her report on redistricting, explaining that the re-districting takes place every 10 years, based on the census. The State population went up. She explained that there are 4 Democrats and 4 Republicans on the Reapportionment Committee, all coming from the House and the Senate. In September, a 9th member is added if necessary to be the tie-breaker vote. There are 151 State Representative districts. The population of the State of Connecticut is now 3,574,097 people, which means that each district has 23,490 people. She represents District #141, and it had to come down from over 26,000 people to closer to 23,000 people. They wanted less than a 2-3% deviation from zero. Rep. Wood said they use a PVI (Partisan Voting Index) according to the last two Presidential elections to get more electoral parity. In 2010, Republicans got 44% of the vote, with Democrats getting 56% of the vote. That should be the ideal balance in the House Chamber, but it's closer to 33% for Republicans and 66% for Democrats. The November 30, 2011 deadline was met by the Redistricting Commission. The State Senate remained the same, but the State House was split up. They are currently working on 5 Congressional Districts. They are determining whether or not to take Bridgeport out of the 4th Congressional District and add it to the 3rd Congressional District. She said the 147th District, currently made up of Stamford and New Canaan, will now include parts of Darien from Hollow Tree Ridge Road down to Christie Hill Road. This will take effect in January of 2013.

REPORT FROM THE DEPOT STUDENT GOVERNING COUNCIL

This report will be presented at a future meeting.

1ST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011

1st Selectman Stevenson said she needs to add an item to the agenda to allow for another Acting 1st Selectman. She will be on vacation from December 20th through December 28th, and as Selectman Campbell has been appointed Acting 1st Selectman, he will be on vacation from December 23rd through December 28th. She recommended Selectman Nielsen to act for both her and Acting 1st Selectman Campbell until December 28th.

**** MR. CAMPBELL MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD THE ITEM OF APPOINTING ANOTHER ACTING 1ST SELECTMAN.**

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Bayne asked that he and Mr. Lundeen be considered in the future for the Acting 1st Selectman position.

**** MR. LUNDEEN MOVED TO APPROVE THAT SELECTMAN NIELSEN BE ACTING 1ST SELECTMAN IN BOTH 1ST SELECTMAN STEVENSON'S AND ACTING 1ST SELECTMAN CAMPBELL'S ABSENCE, UNTIL DECEMBER 28TH, 2011.**

**** MR. BAYNE SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

1st Selectman Stevenson said they held interviews this evening for Boards and Commissions, and it was brought to her attention that the Darien/Rowayton Bank, the Darien Youth Commission, and Darien High School have been very generous this holiday season in support of their efforts of Social Services. She publicly thanked the organizations for stepping up to the plate.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff explained that they are working through the insurance renewals for health care and general liability.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Holly Schultz spoke about the Hoyt Street survey and how eagerly the neighborhood anticipated that something be done about the pedestrian/sidewalk/safety situation. She urged that everyone make it safe.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Discuss Report on Hoyt Street Survey

Mr. Jeremy Ginsberg, Planning & Zoning Director, and Mr. Bob Steeger, Director of Public Works, presented their report on the Hoyt Street Survey results. A copy is

TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011

attached. They discussed DOT requirements, ADA requirements, right-of-way issues with several homes in the designated area, possible easement acquisitions, and overall difficulty with installing the sidewalk.

Some discussion took place regarding the installation of sidewalks on Hoyt Street, and whether they should be installed on the east side of the street vs. the west side of the street between Barringer Road and the Talmadge Hill train station. 1st Selectman Stevenson said that it is a matter of public safety, and if they were to be installed, it would actually be more dangerous because the sidewalk would end abruptly at the New Canaan line. She explained that she has had conversations with the 1st Selectman of New Canaan, Rob Mallozzi, and he has said that they will not be installing sidewalks in that area within New Canaan's jurisdiction. 1st Selectman Stevenson said that Darien is planning on installing streetlights in that area in an effort to make it safer.

Ms. Schultz spoke about the safety of the area as she walks to and from the station. She thought that there was an easy solution to the problem, and she couldn't understand why the focus was on the side of the street that would pose the most difficult installation problems. Mr. David Kahn spoke about the overall safety of the commuter residents and wished that the sidewalk installation could occur as the Town's responsibility to the commuter residents of that area. It was discussed that traffic-calming measures cannot be taken on a State road due to emergency vehicle use, and Rt 106 is a State road.

- b) Discuss and Take Action on Approval of Bench Seating and Plantings in the Public Right-of-Way on Brook Street abutting 1033 Post Road

Mr. Ginsberg said that the wheelchair requirement of 3 feet is in compliance with the regulations.

**** MR. CAMPBELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE BENCH SEATING AND PLANTINGS IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY ON BROOK STREET ABUTTING 1033 POST ROAD**

**** MR. LUNDEEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- c) Discuss and Take Action on Settlement of Assessment Appeals

**** MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THAT THE DARIEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN HEREBY APPROVE SETTLEMENT OF THE CASE OF JAMES E. HAMILTON V. TOWN OF DARIEN, FST-CV-09-5011745 TO AMEND THE FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO \$4,700,000 FROM \$5,151,600. THE AMENDED FAIR MARKET VALUE OF \$4,700,000 WILL APPLY TO THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2008, THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2009, THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2010, THE**

TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011

GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2011 AND THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2012.

**** MR. BAYNE SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THAT THE DARIEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN HEREBY APPROVE SETTLEMENT OF THE CASE OF JOHN J. AND LILIANA BARTSON V. TOWN OF DARIEN, FST-CV-09-4016583-S TO AMEND THE FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO \$2,181,400 FROM \$2,381,400 WHICH WILL APPLY TO THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2008, THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2009, AND THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2010 AND FURTHER AMEND THE FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO \$2,141,400 FROM \$2,381,400 WHICH WILL APPLY TO THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2011 AND THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2012.**

**** MR. LUNDEEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- d) Discuss and Take Action on Charge for Advisory Commission on Civic Engagement and Communication

1st Selectman Stevenson said that she wished to combine both the Channel 79 Government Access Television Committee and the IT Advisory Committee into a more broader-scoped Advisory Committee on Civic Engagement and Communication. A draft of the charge was provided to the Selectmen. This is an effort to broaden the Town's outreach to the community and make suggested improvements to the IT infra-structure. After some discussion and suggested changes to the draft and more information requested on civic engagement, the concept was agreed upon. 1st Selectman Stevenson said she would talk to the members of the existing committees and then advertise for the positions to be filled. Mr. Bayne agreed to make the changes to the draft and provide them to 1st Selectman Stevenson and Mr. Kilduff. They will then vote on this in January.

AGENDA REVIEW

1st Selectman Stevenson said that the Depot Student Governing Council will be on a future agenda. She said she will bring back some information from SWRPA and the DOT, as well as information from New Canaan's 1st Selectman Mallozzi, regarding the Hoyt Street survey results.

APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following **re-appointments**:

TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011

- a) Ann Shaw to the Sewer Commission for a 3-year term beginning on January 1, 2012 and expiring on December 31, 2014.
- b) Marcia Meinerth to the Beautification Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2011 and expiring on November 30, 2014.
- c) Melisse Reardon to the Social Services Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2011 and expiring on November 20, 2014.

**** MR. LUNDEEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE RE-APPOINTMENTS OF ANN SHAW TO THE SEWER COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2012 AND EXPIRING ON DECEMBER 31, 2014; AND MELISSE REARDON TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON DECEMBER 1, 2011 AND EXPIRING ON NOVEMBER 20, 2014.**

**** MR. CAMPBELL SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

It was decided that approval of Ms. Meinerth's re-appointment to the Beautification Commission will take place at a future meeting.

Consider and take action on the following **appointment**:

- a) Appointment of Advisory Commission on Civic Engagement and Communication

It was decided that approval of this appointment will take place at a future meeting.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

January 9, 2012	Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.
January 10, 2012	Board of Selectmen Joint Dept Heads Meeting at 8:30 a.m.
January 10, 2012	Board of Education Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
January 10, 2012	Planning & Zoning Commission Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m.
January 17, 2012	Regular Meeting of Board of Finance at 6:30 p.m.
January 17, 2012	Planning & Zoning Commission Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m.
January 18, 2012	Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
January 23, 2012	Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS (Any items added to the agenda require a two-thirds vote.)

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. LUNDEEN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. CAMPBELL SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services

TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011